

Section 401 Water Quality Certification Public Notice

The Central Coast Water Board is currently reviewing an application for the following project for water quality certification under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. We encourage public comments on the proposed work, which will be considered in the decision on certification. You may submit written comments on this project to:

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101

San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Attention: 401 Coordinator

OR

centralcoast@waterboards.ca.gov

Attention: 401 Coordinator

Project Applicant	Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E)—Craig Geldard
Applicant's Agent	PG&E—Jamie Dean
Project Name	Empire Grade Road Access Project
Receiving Water	Tributary to Big Creek
City/County	Unincorporated Santa Cruz County
Public Notice	August 24, 2015 – September 14, 2015
Project Description	<p>The purpose of this project is to ensure the safety and reliability of the Empire Grade access roads, which are essential to obtaining access to a transmission line.</p> <p>The project activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Installing a 35-foot long, 36-inch diameter high-density polyethylene culvert;• Placing 6 to 12 inch rock rip-rap in a 9-foot wide by 10-foot long area surrounding the culvert;• Placing a 30-inch layer of compacted fill over the top of the culvert, with three inches of aggregate road base on top;• Installing two rock ford crossings, with 12-foot wide roadbeds;• Creating seven road rocking areas along the access road, as requesting through coordination with the California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife;• Pruning vegetation along the edges of the access road to create a 14-foot wide access path; and• Re-seeding disturbed areas surrounding the work locations at the completion of project activities. <p>Compensatory mitigation for this project includes: creating 0.018 acres (55 linear feet) of streambed and restoring 0.018 acres of streambed (55 linear feet).</p> <p>A Categorical Exemption has been filed.</p>